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May 27, 2004

Providence man admits to gun charge

Residents called police after Jeremy Hall was seen in a house with a gun

Jeremy Hall, 28, of Providence, has pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm, admitting that he had stashed a handgun under a mattress after Providence Police were called to a California Avenue home in January.

The Office of the United States Attorney announced the guilty plea, which Hall entered yesterday before Senior U.S. District Court Judge Ronald R. Lagueux in U.S. District Court, Providence. Hall, of 260 Adelaide Avenue, is detained pending sentencing, which is scheduled for September 8.

At the plea hearing, Assistant U.S. Attorney Zechariah Chafee said that, on January 27, Providence Police were called to 241 California Avenue with reports that a man with a gun was inside the house. A short while later, Hall came out of the house unarmed. However, police officers found .40 caliber handgun hidden under a mattress in the house and Hall admitted that the gun was his. He told police that he had gone to the house looking for a man who he believed was armed and had brought the gun with him.

Hall, who has prior felonies that include larceny and drug trafficking, pleaded guilty to one count of being a felon in possession of a firearm. The statutory maximum penalty is ten years in federal prison and a \$250,000 fine. Federal sentencing is

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determined on the basis of guidelines that rely on such factors as the specific nature of an offense and a defendant's criminal background, if any.

Hall also faces state charges in connection with the incident.

Providence Police and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and

Explosives investigated the case. Assistant U.S. Attorney Chafee is prosecuting it.

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